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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, JULY 12, 2001

APPLICATION OF

UNITED TELEPHONE-SOUTHEAST, INC.

CASE NO. PUC990087

To implement extended local  
service from its Saltville  
exchange to its Konnarock  
exchange

FINAL ORDER

On May 7, 1999, United Telephone-Southeast, Inc. ("United" or "the Company"), filed an application with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") pursuant to the provisions of § 56-484.2 of the Code of Virginia. United proposed to notify its Saltville exchange customers of the increases in monthly rates that would be necessary to extend their local service to include the Konnarock exchange. Telephone customers in the Konnarock exchange had previously petitioned the Commission for local calling to Saltville. In a poll conducted in response to the petition, a majority of Konnarock customers responding to the poll supported paying higher rates for local calling to Saltville. A poll of Saltville customers in response to this application was not required under § 56-484.2 A of the Code of Virginia because the proposed rate increase does not

exceed five percent of the existing monthly one-party residential flat rate.

By Order dated July 28, 1999, the Commission directed United to publish notice of the proposed increase. Affected telephone customers were given until October 7, 1999, to file comments or to request a hearing on the proposal. On September 13, 1999, United filed proof of notice as required by the Commission's July 28, 1999, Order. One comment opposing the proposal was received.

On October 15, 1999, the Commission Staff submitted its report. Since the Konnarock customers originally had been polled concerning their willingness to pay higher rates to the Marion, Chilhowie, Saltville, and Sugar Grove exchanges, and since customers in the Sugar Grove exchange had voted against extending local service to Konnarock, the Staff recommended that no further action be taken until Konnarock customers could be given notice and opportunity to comment on extended local service to the remaining three exchanges at slightly lower rates.

On August 30, 2000, Hearing Examiner Alexander F. Skirpan, Jr., issued his Report in Case No. PUC990211, Application of United Telephone-Southeast, Inc., For authority to provide notice to its Konnarock customers of revised ELS proposal. The Hearing Examiner found that United's application to implement

extended local service between Konnarock and the Marion, Chilhowie, and Saltville exchanges is in the public interest and should be granted. By Final Order dated November 9, 2000, the Commission adopted the findings of the August 30, 2000, Report and ordered that extended local service be implemented between United's Konnarock exchange and its Marion, Chilhowie, and Saltville exchanges.

NOW UPON CONSIDERATION of the foregoing and the applicable law, we are of the opinion and find that because United's application for extended local service from its Saltville exchange to its Konnarock exchange has been granted in Case No. PUC990211, this case should be dismissed.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED THAT since there is nothing further to come before the Commission, this case is dismissed and removed from the Commission's docket of active cases.